

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 5, 2006

S. 2028

A bill to provide for the reinstatement of a license for a certain Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on May 24, 2006

S. 2028 would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to reinstate the license for a hydroelectric project (number 7307) in West Virginia. The bill also would extend the deadline for commencing construction of that project until December 31, 2007.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 2028 would have no net effect on the federal budget. The bill would have a minor impact on FERC's workload. Because FERC recovers 100 percent of its costs through user fees, any change in its administrative costs would be fully offset by an equal change in the fees that the commission charges. Because FERC's administrative costs are limited in annual appropriations, the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 2028 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. The bill would benefit the city of Grafton, West Virginia, by authorizing the reinstatement and extension of its license for construction of a hydroelectric project. Any costs to the city would be incurred voluntarily.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.